



Bluffton Police Department

DATE: March 18, 2016

RELEASE NUMBER: 16-19

Alcohol Compliance Checks

Who:

Bluffton Police Department and South Carolina Law Enforcement Agency

What:

Alcohol Compliance Checks

Where:

Bluffton Bars/Restaurants/Stores

When:

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

On Wednesday, March 16, 2016, members of the Bluffton Police Department Special Investigations Unit assisted the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division in fifteen alcohol compliance checks at various businesses in Bluffton. Alcohol compliance checks are a type of environmental prevention that deters alcohol outlets from selling alcohol to underage youth. If during a compliance check youth are able to successfully buy from the establishment, the business is cited.

Of the establishment's Bluffton PD investigators and SLED agents visited, four were ticketed for selling alcohol to an underage person who was working with police. The businesses cited include: Cinco Mexican Grill, Balaeda Express, Big Jims Liquors, and Supermexicano Grocery.

We are proud of the numerous establishments that did not sell alcohol to the underage individual and congratulate the following businesses: Outback Steakhouse, Blue Water Gas Station, Chin Dynasty, Enmark, Pour Richards Bar, Kobe Steakhouse, Shell Station Plantation Park, Chow Daddy's, Jim N Nicks, Mellow Mushroom and Fiesta Fresh.

"When we assist SLED with compliance checks, we hope that all of our businesses are following the law and checking identification accordingly. We didn't find that this round, but hopefully when we check again, all the businesses will comply. I would like to thank each of the businesses that did follow the law and hope they will lead by example," said Bluffton Police Chief Joey Reynolds.

Each business ticketed was given a criminal violation and an administrative violation. Each criminal violation ticket was in the amount of \$470, and the administrative fine is set by the Department of Revenue which can vary depending on if the establishment has been fined in the past. The criminal violation ticket was given to the person who provided the underage individual the alcohol, and the administrative ticket was given to the owner of the establishment.

Bluffton Police assist SLED and the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office when alcohol compliance checks are completed within the Town.

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